

RESEARCH DATA MANAGEMENT (RDM) IN EU-PROJECTS

The EU Horizon Europe Framework Programme ([Programme Guide Version 4.1, May 2024](#)) moves beyond Open Access towards Open Science. With regard to the handling of research data, the principle of "as open as possible, as closed as necessary" applies, which is why ERC projects can opt out of Open Data in substantiated cases only. Research data should in any case comply with the [FAIR principles](#); i.e. it must be findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable. Data management plans (DMP according to [HE Template](#) / [ERC Template](#)) are obligatory and must be submitted within six months of project start and updated as the project progresses. The data should be archived at the latest six months after the end of the project (ERC).

A detailed handout on „[Open Research Data and Data Management Plans](#)“ by the ERC Council (Version 4.1, April 2022) contains many practical tips and describes the requirements for the respective subject domain. [C³RDM](#) offers early advice on research data management issues during the application process.

Some initial **questions for orientation**:

1. Do you apply for infrastructure means or software (licenses)?
 - a. Is this justified in the argumentation?
 - b. Are storage requirements clarified and their acquisition coordinated with the [IT-Centre](#)?
 - c. Is there a need for IT-services or HPC resources?
2. Are estimated costs for RDM included in the proposal?
 - a. Is support needed for data curation and publication?
(e.g. postdoctoral position; also technician / computer scientist / PhD position)
 - b. Do you expect fees for archiving and / or data publication?
 - c. You can find more information about calculating RDM cost in this Open AIRE [Infographic](#).
3. Do you intend to reuse local, national or international RDM-resources?
 - a. Is there a relevant consortium within the „Nationale Forschungsdateninfrastruktur ([NFDI](#))“, that offers or develops subject-specific RDM solutions or standards and should be mentioned in the proposal?
 - b. For searching additional existing resources please check this [DFG-portal](#).
4. Will the aspect of subsequent data use be dealt with?
 - a. Do you mention subject-specific standards of RDM documentation / annotation?
 - b. Do you mention appropriate and trustworthy data repositories?
 - c. If applicable, please check for sufficient justification why subsequent data reuse is not possible / relevant.

RDM consultation contact D7 / C³RDM: Jasmin Schenk, j.schenk@verw.uni-koeln.de

Contact C³RDM-Team: fdm-support@uni-koeln.de

More information on C³RDM: <https://fdm.uni-koeln.de/>

Suggested **paragraph on central RDM support** at UoC:

„The University of Cologne has developed and approved a [Research Data Policy](#) which provides guidance for the management, protection, preservation and provision of research data. For the implementation of these guidelines and data management in general, the **EU / ERC** project will be able to rely on support and existing infrastructures for basic services provided by the [Cologne Competence Center for Research Data Management](#) (C³RDM).“

How does the UoC provide institutional RDM support?

C³RDM: The team of the [Cologne Competence Center for Research Data Management](#) works hand in hand with the project managers of [Division 7 Research Management](#) when advising on project proposals and offers support on any kind of question regarding research data management (RDM). When referring to institutional support offered throughout the entire project duration, you may use the following paragraph or similar wording:

"The planning and implementation of research data management within the project is advised and supported by the Cologne Competence Center for Research Data Management (C³RDM) at the University of Cologne."

Faculty of Arts and Humanities: Advice and proposal support for the humanities is also provided on a subject-specific basis by the [Data Center for the Humanities \(DCH\)](#).

Faculty of Medicine: Questions about research data management in third-party funding applications can be directed to the C³RDM team, which also cooperates with the [Medicine IT Coordination](#).

RDM consultation contact D7 / C³RDM: Jasmin Schenk, j.schenk@verw.uni-koeln.de

Contact C³RDM-Team: fdm-support@uni-koeln.de

More information on C³RDM: <https://fdm.uni-koeln.de/>